AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The user ~~to~~ may select individual programs, but the automatic broadcast recording apparatus presumes certain programs to be the ones that the user may want to see. Therefore, in order to record programs that the user may want to see without fail, the automatic broadcast recording apparatus should preferably accumulate as many programs that are expected to be seen by the viewer as possible. The automatic broadcast recording apparatus thus uses a program storage memory area to its almost full capacity at all times, selects programs to be left in the program storage memory area, and records the new programs in the program storage memory area and deletes programs stored in the past from the program storage memory area based on the selections. One simple method of determining programs to be deleted from the program storage memory area is to delete programs in the same order that they are recorded.

Please replace the two paragraphs beginning on page 5, line 3 with the following amended paragraphs:

At present, the data contained in the EPG are not detailed enough, and it is difficult to determine the contents of programs from the EPG data and select programs that meet the user's taste based on the EPG data. It is also difficult to group programs that are to be recorded depending on the user's taste into different levels based on the EPG data. Furthermore, since it takes a certain period of time for the automatic broadcast recording apparatus to learn the user's taste, the user cannot expect the automatic broadcast recording apparatus to automatically record all the programs that meets the user's taste without fail until the presuming accuracy of the automatic broadcast recording apparatus becomes sufficiently high.

According to the method of automatically selecting programs from the EPG based on keywords or the like that represent the user's taste, the user needs to manually enter various keywords into the automatic broadcast recording apparatus, and the manual process of entering keywords or the like is tedious and time-consuming. In addition, programs that the user wants to see may not be recorded unless the use-user enters all the keywords that are required. Inasmuch as the EPG can be edited with a view to easily selecting programs in a keyword search, it occasionally tends to happen that programs that do not meet the user's taste may actually be recorded by keywords.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The automatic broadcast recording apparatus has information acquiring means, timer recording means, receiving means, and recording and playing means. the-The automatic broadcast recording apparatus acquires timer recording pattern information for recording programs recommended by an opinion leader who is selected by the user by the information acquiring means and sets timer recording for a program determined by the timer recording pattern information by the timer recording means. The automatic broadcast recording apparatus receives the program set for timer recording by the receiving means, and records the program by the recording and playing means.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

The above process of selecting a program can be applied to a conventional automatic broadcast recording apparatus in which timer recording action of the users who have similar viewing histories are shared by the users with use of the collaborative filtering to select programs to be recorded. In this case, timer recording pattern server may collect the playback completion

levels of the users of a group having similar tastes, and sends collected status information to each

user. When automatic broadcast recording apparatus which has received collected status

information selects a program to be stored in the program storage memory area, it selects a

program with a higher playback completion level preferentially.